court was opened, the rest was left to the High Court. There could be no doubt that a court at Kuthiathode would get enough work. It might not also mean much expenditure for Government, for the additional courts at Vaikom and Shertallay could then be abolished.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Madhava Kartha, the Chief Engineer has prepared the estimate for the two bridges you refer to and they are about to be sanctioned. He will try to see whether this can be carried through this year.

I shall consider the question whether the Government can do anything to help people in the matter of Pookitha chira..

As regards the Munsiff-Magistrate's court, I shall ask the High Court to consider the matter again, now that they have decided to take up the whole question of readjustment of the territorial jurisdiction throughout Travancore.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 2 P. M. and met again at 3 P. M.

116. Suggestions for the development of women's education.

MR. H. B. MAHOMMAD ROWTHER (*Member, Nominated*) said that the present system of education in Travancore should be brought into line with the advanced systems obtaining in the west. Two women officers of the Education Department should, for this purpose, be sent to western countries to study the systems prevailing there.

So far as the present organisation of the Education Department was concerned the powers of the Inspectress of Schools should be enhanced. She should be invested with powers to grant recognition to schools, to sanction grants-in-aid and to select candidates for training.

In regard to the curricula of studies the member wanted prominence to be given to moral and ethical instruction in girls' schools. So also, girls studying in boys' schools should be instructed in sewing, music etc., as much as the girls in girls' schools.

Women should as far as possible be appointed as teachers in all girls' schools and a woman member should be appointed on the Text Book Committee.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Mahommad Rowther, I do not know whether many in this country will accept your view that higher education for women is unnecessary and that only domestic arts need be learnt by women. In a matter such as this Government can but study the general feeling in the country and if, as at present the general feeling is for the education of girls, it is the duty of the Government to encourage and help it.

You say that some of the officers should be detailed to Europe to study the system of female education there. Let me inform you that there are a number of officers in the Educational Department of the State who have visited England for protracted or briefer periods and who have studied the question of female education in Europe.

Lastly, you say that it is necessary and desirable to put women upon the Text Book Committee. At present you think it is composed entirely of men. That is not strictly correct, because the Inspectress of Schools is a member of the Text Book Committee.

117. Educational facilities to the depressed classes.

MR. P. YESUDIAN (*Member, Nominated*) stated that the scheme of close scholarships sanctioned in G. O. R. Dis. No. 426 Leg. E. dated the 21st April 1925 had not been given effect to yet. Consequently many students had to discontinue their studies. According to the present practice, applications for scholarships were taken up for disposal long after the reopening of the schools. In the meantime poor students had no alternative but to borrow money. Indeed they could get the scholarships with retrospective effect at the close of the year, but it was extremely difficult for them to pull on till they got the money. Instructions should therefore be issued to dispose of all applications for scholarships within three months at the latest from the beginning of the academic year.

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